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Item 2 (e) of the provisional agenda

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

ADMISSION OF ORGANIZATIONS AS OBSERVERS

Admission of observers: intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

Note by the secretariat

1. The admission of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations as observers is governed by Article 7, paragraph 6, of the Convention, which provides, *inter alia*, that "any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, which is qualified in matters covered by the Convention, and which has informed the secretariat of its wish to be represented at a session of the Conference of the Parties as an observer, may be so admitted unless at least one third of the Parties present object."

2. At its first session, the Conference of the Parties (COP), further to a proposal of the President, agreed that the secretariat should invite to the future sessions of the Conference and of its subsidiary bodies, all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations admitted at that session and at future sessions, unless an objection was raised to any particular organization in accordance with the Convention and the rules of procedure (FCCC/CP/1995/7, para. 22). Consequently, all the organizations admitted to previous sessions (with the exception of those which were admitted to the third session of the Conference of the Parties only) have been invited to attend the fourth session, and the procedure for admission to the Conference of the Parties applies to new applicants only.

3. In this context, the secretariat has prepared a list of new applicant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have expressed a wish to be admitted to the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 4), for consideration by the Parties at the start of the

session. The list includes all new applicant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have requested and been accorded pre-admittance status to COP 4. In drawing up the list, the secretariat has taken due account of the provisions of Article 7.6 and of the established practice whereby non-governmental organizations are required to furnish proof of their non-profit (tax-exempt) status in a State Member of the United Nations or of a specialized agency or of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

4. The Bureau of the Conference of the Parties has considered the list of applicants and raised no objections to the organizations listed in the attached annex. These organizations have been advised of their "pre-admittance status" on the understanding that the final authority for the admission of observers rests with the Conference of the Parties. The Bureau further recommended that the non-governmental organizations with an asterisk against their names in the list be admitted only to COP 4, provided that they be invited to re-apply after that session of the Conference, should they wish to continue to participate in the Convention process.

5. In the light of the above, the Conference is invited, at its first plenary meeting to accord observer status to the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the attached list.

Annex

List of new applicant organizations having expressed their wish to be admitted as observers at the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties

I. INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. Inter American Development Bank , United States of America

II. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. Air Transport Association of America, United States of America
2. American Farm Bureau, United States of America
3. American Nuclear Society, United States of America
4. Asociación CONCIENCIA, Argentina
5. Australian Conservation Foundation, Australia
6. Bellerive Foundation , Switzerland
7. Business Council for Sustainable Development - Latin America, Costa Rica
8. Canadian Nuclear Association, Canada
9. Centre for Science and Environment, India
10. Consumer Alert, United States of America
11. Earth Science and Technology Organization, Japan
12. Electric Power Research Institute, United States of America
13. Emissions Marketing Association, United States of America
14. European Federation for Transport and Environment, Belgium
15. Foro del Buen Ayre, Argentina*

16. Fundación Bariloche, Argentina

17. Global Environment Forum/Institute for International Studies, United States of America

18. Global Network Class "Gakkos", Japan

19. IFFCARE: Welfare & Environment Action League Section, United Kingdom

20. Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, University of California, United States of America

21. Instituto Argentino De Normalización, Argentina

22. International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development, Switzerland

23. KIKO Network, Japan

24. Small Business Survival Committee, United States of America

25. The Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Republic of Korea

26. The National Center for Public Policy Research, United States of America

27. The Pacific Forest Trust, United States of America

28. The Pew Center on Global Climate Change ("Strategies for the Global Environment"), United States of America

29. The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Japan

30. Third World Network, Malaysia

31. *Vitae Civilis* - Institute for Development, Environment and Peace, Brazil

32. World Council of Nuclear Workers, France

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